PATENT **Customer Number 22,852** Attorney Docket No. 07873.0002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Solco Walle SCHALM Group Art Unit: 1648 RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER Examiner: L. Scheiner Application No.: 09/689,637 OCT 2 1 2003 Filed: October 13, 2000 For: COMBINED HEPATITIS B TREATMENT Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Response

This communication responds to the Office Action dated September 25, 2001. Please reconsider this application in light of the following remarks.

I. Status of claims

Claims 11-20 are pending in this application. The Examiner has indicated that claim 17 is drawn to allowable subject matter and that claims 11-16 and 18-20 are rejected.

II. Format of the claims

The Examiner suggested that applicants write the pending claims in Jepson format. Applicants respectfully decline the Examiner's invitation. The claims as they stand conform to the applicable requirement of definiteness in 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, so there should be no need to re-write the claims.

III. Rejection of claims 1-16 and 18-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

innegan, Henderson, FARABOW, GARRETT, 8 DUNNER, L. L.P. ASHINGTON, DC 20005 202-408-4000

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